

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Anchor Metal Finishing - Removal Polrep



EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



381015

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region V

**Subject:** POLREP #1  
Initial Sitrep  
Anchor Metal Finishing  
B5SZ  
Schiller Park, IL  
Latitude: 41.9487379 Longitude: -87.8605867

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**From:** Bradley Benning, OSC  
**Date:** 12/2/2010  
**Reporting Period:** 11/30/2010 to 12/2/2010

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	B5SZ	<b>Contract Number:</b>	302-81
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	0059	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	6/24/2010
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Response Lead:</b>	EPA	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	11/30/2010	<b>Start Date:</b>	12/2/2010
<b>Demob Date:</b>		<b>Completion Date:</b>	
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	ILN000510404	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	0312850019
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

#### **1.1.1 Incident Category**

Time-Critical Removal Action

#### **1.1.2 Site Description**

The Anchor Metal Finishing Site is located at 9355 Bernice Avenue in Schiller Park, Illinois. The meridian coordinates for the Site are latitude 41° 56' 53.86" North and longitude 87° 51' 40.27" West. The Site contains a one-story brick building with an area of approximately 10,000 square feet (ft<sup>2</sup>) that includes a small metal loft, an office in the northeast corner, and a partially walled workshop in the middle of the building's main floor. The building has a concrete floor except for a gravel area along the south wall. A gravel parking area is located north and east of the building. The gravel parking area occupies approximately 26,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.

The Site is located in an industrial park area bordered by commercial trucking businesses to the east and south and industrial businesses to the north and west. Residences are located within 0.20 mile southwest and 0.20 mile north and northeast of the Site. Several schools and a hospital are located near the Site, including East Leyden High School, Lincoln Middle School, a daycare center, and Animal Care Hospital. The Des Plaines River is located 0.30 mile east of the Site.

Anchor Metal Finishing, Inc. was a black oxide finisher that used chemical conversion on steel, a process that did not involve electroplating. Before Anchor Metal Finishing, Inc., Royal Metal Finishers conducted finishing operations at the Site. Royal

Metal Finishers conducted two primary on-site operations: zinc plating on carbon steel and black oxidizing of steel. Royal Metal Finishers also conducted smaller operations for black oxidizing of stainless steel and copper plating on carbon steel. Process wastes generated by Royal Metal Finishers included filter press wastes, zinc bath sludge, iron oxide sludge, copper bath sludge, and zinc plating cleaner sludge. Royal Metal Finishers ceased operations at the Site in the late 1980s, around the time when Anchor Metal Finishing began renting space in the Site building. Anchor Metal Finishing, Inc operated at the Site from the late 1980s until January 2008. The Elite Sewer Company is presently operating as a business on the property. Elite Sewer uses the building for storage and occupies the building office. Elite Sewer also utilizes the property parking lot.

#### **1.1.2.1 Location**

The Anchor Metal Finishing Site is located at 9355 Bernice Avenue in Schiller Park, Illinois. The meridian coordinates for the Site are latitude 41° 56' 53.86" North and longitude 87° 51' 40.27" West.

#### **1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

U.S. EPA conducted a Site Assessment at the Site on October 15, 2009. The on-site building was found to be in general disrepair. The Village of Schiller Park placed a "No Occupancy" sign on the front door of the building. It was raining during the site assessment, and the roof was leaking in multiple places where it was torn off during high winds. The main floor of the building contained approximately 125 55-gallon drums, including unmarked containers, drums labeled "Muriatic Acid," and a drum labeled "Hazardous Waste." Other waste material observed included 22 1-cubic-yard (yd<sup>3</sup>) cardboard boxes of sludge; an in-ground vat running along the south wall containing approximately 5,400 gallons of liquid with 4 inches of sludge at the bottom; a sump in the northwest corner; and 28 partially filled 5-gallon pails. Rainwater was observed pooling near the open sludge boxes. The loft area contained approximately 75 55-gallon half-filled drums of sludge and several open drums of unknown waste that had formed crystals around the tops of the drums. Many of the drums both on the main floor and in the loft were filled with unknown contents at or above the drums' capacities. Several of the drum storage areas had inadequate aisle space, making it difficult to inspect the condition of some drums. Most of the drums were open and stored on pallets.

#### **1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results**

Corrosive materials were identified in open drums at the Site. The pH of several of the liquid waste samples (WL03, WL03D, and WL04) was 14. Liquid waste sample WL05 had a pH of 1. In addition, solid/sludge sample WS07 had a pH of greater than 12.5. These samples meet the definition of hazardous waste characteristic of corrosivity according to 40 CFR 261.22. In addition, the building roof was leaking in several areas. Because many of the drums and containers are open, materials could be released if precipitation leaking through the roof overfills the containers and drums

and they discharge to the gravel area, sump, or any openings in the building. High concentrations of chromium were detected in the solid/sludge waste sample from WS04 (1800 mg/kg) and the SS03 soil sample (2200 mg/kg). The WS04 sampling location is near the north side of the building, and contamination could migrate out of the building during periods of precipitation. In addition, sludge waste from the deteriorated 1-yd sludge boxes could migrate out of the building and onto the Site property. The removal action level (RAL) for total chromium in an industrial setting is 154,000 mg/kg.

A high concentration of chromium was detected in the soil sample SS03 (2200 mg/kg). A high concentration of benzo(a)pyrene was detected in soil samples SS01 (793 µg/kg) SS02 (822 µg/kg): These sampling locations are outside the north and south sides of the building, and contamination could migrate offsite during periods of precipitation.

The Site contains approximately 200 open 55-gallon drums, 28 partially filled 5-gallon pails, 22 1-yd<sup>3</sup> sludge boxes, a sump, and an in-ground vat. Materials identified in drums at the Site were characterized as hazardous waste for corrosivity as defined in 40 CFR 261, and materials in the sludge boxes contained high levels of chromium. In addition, the building roof was leaking in several areas. Because many of the drums and containers are open, materials could be released if precipitation leaking through the roof overfills the containers and the drums and they discharge to the gravel areas, sump, or other openings in the building.

## **2. Current Activities**

### **2.1 Operations Section**

#### **2.1.1 Narrative**

The conditions at the Anchor Metal Finishing Site present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health, welfare, and the environment and meet the criteria for a time-critical removal action provided for in Section 300.415 (b)(2) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), as amended, 40 C.F.R. Part 300.

#### **2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

Mobilization activities started on 11/30/2010, with general site set up and equipment delivery. Response action started 12/2/2010, with stabilizing the facility, sealing windows, removing debris.

#### **2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)**

For administrative purposes, information concerning the enforcement strategy for this site is contained in the Enforcement Confidential Addendum.

#### 2.1.4 Progress Metrics

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

## 2.2 Planning Section

### 2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Conduct a time critical removal action to mitigate threats to public health, welfare, and the environment in industrial and residential areas adjacent to the Anchor Metal Finishing Site in Schiller Park, (Cook County), Illinois. The response action is necessary to address the release and the threat of future releases of hazardous materials in these residential areas.

#### 2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

- 1) Prepare a work plan that includes tasks and time line for the activities as well as a site Health and Safety Plan addressing continuous monitoring of airborne contaminants and dust control measures and a Site Emergency Contingency Plan; ,
- 2) Develop and implement a Site Security Plan;
- 3) Inventory and perform hazard characterization on all substances contained in containers, drums, vats, sweepings, unknown materials, and tanks;
- 4) Dismantle and decontaminate process equipment, tanks/vats, associated piping, and building components associated with the product process area, as necessary;
- 5) Consolidate and package all hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants for transportation and off-site disposal;
- 6) Investigate the potential for soil and building wall/floor contamination on the property;
- 7) Excavate and dispose of significantly contaminated soil
- 8) Backfill the excavated areas with clean material and topsoil. Restore and vegetate to prevent soil erosion.
- 9) Properly address any additional hazardous waste and/or materials identified during the removal action.

10) Transport and dispose of all characterized or identified hazardous substances, pollutants, wastes, or contaminants that pose a substantial threat of release at a RCRA/CERCLA-approved disposal facility in accordance with U.S. EPA's Off-Site Rule (40 CFR § 300.440); and

11) Take any other response actions to address any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant that the EPA OSC determines may pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or the environment.

#### **2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

Clear debris from the facility, inventory and segregate waste streams and begin staging for disposal.

#### **2.2.2 Issues**

There are no known community or congressional issues concerning this site.

### **2.3 Logistics Section**

Office trailer setup is completed, response equipment is being delivered.

### **2.4 Finance Section**

#### **2.4.1 Narrative**

Task Order 0059, with a current ceiling of \$250,000

### **2.5 Safety Officer**

Health and Safety Plan is completed. Safety issues will be addressed as they are discovered.

### **2.6 Liaison Officer**

Local Fire Dept. has been notified of the removal start.

### **2.7 Information Officer**

#### **2.7.1 Public Information Officer**

PIO has not been assigned to this site.

#### **2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator**

Site is located in an industrial park, no known community issues, CIC has not been assigned.

### **3. Participating Entities**

#### **3.1 Unified Command**

USEPA Fund-Lead Removal Action.

#### **3.2 Cooperating and Assisting Agencies**

Village of Schiller Park

Schiller Park Police and Fire Departments

Illinois EPA

### **4. Personnel On Site**

EPA OSC - 1

Weston Start - 1

EQM - 5

### **5. Definition of Terms**

N/A

### **6. Additional sources of information**

#### **6.1 Internet location of additional information/reports**

[www.epaosc.org/anchormetal](http://www.epaosc.org/anchormetal)

#### **6.2 Reporting Schedule**

Weekly Sitrep

### **7. Situational Reference Materials**

Located on EPA OSC website under document link for this site.